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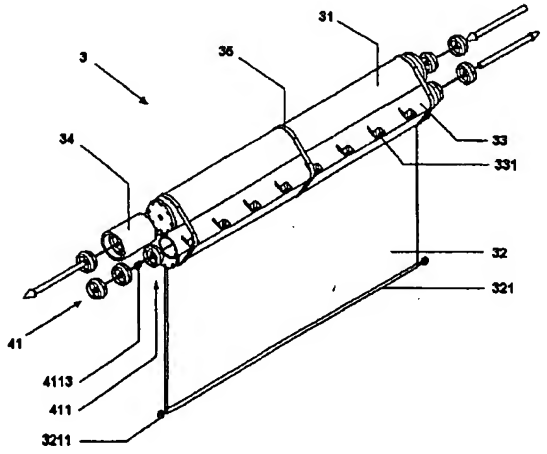
(54) Title: ACTIVE BARRIER FOR POLLUTED WATERS AND METHOD FOR ITS INSTALLATION



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an active barrier (1) and a method for its use. The active barrier (1) is used to contain and to collect polluting material floating over bodies of water, such as river, lakes, lagoons, bays or open oceans. More specifically, the active barrier is used in a situation in that pollution is caused by a liquid lighter than the water and immiscible with it, such as oil. The invention comprises a plurality of floating containment modules (3) which are interlinked to form the active barrier (1). When the latter is used in the open ocean it is required to use two supporting units (2), e.g. two vessels, to surround the mass of floating polluting material. Each containment module (3) is provided with collecting tubes (33), into which impeller modules (411) displace in a predetermined direction. The impeller modules (411) may be continuous or spaced apart. The displacement of the impeller modules (411) causes a pumping effect of pollutes water into the collecting tubes (33), and thereby the polluted waters are continuously pumped to traction and treatment assemblages (4) located at the supporting units (2).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 E02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 578 147 A (SVILUPPO SETTORI IMPIEGO SRL) 12 January 1994 (1994-01-12) column 6, line 34 -column 7, line 15; figures 5-11	1
X	US 3 700 593 A (HOUBOLT JACOB J H C ET AL) 24 October 1972 (1972-10-24) column 2, line 38 -column 3, line 56; figures	1
A	US 5 169 526 A (GOULD WILLIAM L) 8 December 1992 (1992-12-08) cited in the application column 4, line 6 - line 39; figures	1,2

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	De Coene, P

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Information on patent family members

Application No
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